

City and County of the City of Chester

ANNUAL REPORT

TO THE

MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF THE CITY OF CHESTER

On the Health of the City

and the

Work of the Health Department in 1956

BA

D. F. MORGAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health.

Together with the Report of the W. B. CALDER, F.R.S.H., M.P.H.I.A. CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

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HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1956

Chairman:

Alderman E. E. Ashton

Deputy Chairman:

Alderman Arthur Charmley

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Councillor L. Edwards

Councillor P. G. Coleman

Councillor Helen T. Pollard

Co-opted Members:

Dr. W. Gilchrist Col. C. W. Marsden, M.C. B. A. Williams, C.B.E.

STAFF OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health	D. F. Morgan, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.
Deputy Medical Officer of Health	Ivy F. Fallon, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
Assistant Medical Officer of Health	A. McGregor, M.B., CH.B., B.A.
Chief Public Health Inspector, Food Inspector, Factory Acts Supervision, etc.	†*W. B. Calder F.R.S.H., M.P.H.I.A.
Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector	†*G. E. Jarvis, M.R.S.H., M.P.H.I.A.
District Additional Public Health Inspectors	†*R. B. Powell, M.R.S.H., M.P.H.I.A. *L. Graham, M.R.S.H., M.P.H.I.A. †*E. T. Swift, M.R.S.H., M.P.H.I.A. †*F. Rummens, M.R.S.H., M.P.H.I.A. †*S. Clarke, M.R.S.H., M.P.H.I.A.
Assistant Inspectors	H. J. Hewitt, M.P.H.I.A.
Pupil Inspectors	T. A. Chetwood W. Cobden Appointed 5/3/56

Superintendent Health Visitor and Non-Medical Supervisor of Midwives

Miss B. M. Long, S.R.N., S.C.M., P.H.A. CERT. (Royal Coll. of Nursing)

Superintendent Home Nursing Service

Miss M. H. Greenwood, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N.

Health Visitors

Mrs. M. T. Slater, S.R.N., S.C.M. Mrs. M. McGovern, S.R.N., S.C.M. Miss M. W. Wright, S.R.N., S.C.M. Resigned 31/8/56

Miss M. Hughes, s.r.n., s.c.m.

Mrs. J. Walker, s.R.N., s.C.M.

Miss B. M. Blood, s.r.n., s.c.m. Resigned 20/3/56

Miss A. Vaughan Pugh, s.r.n., s.c.m.

Miss B. M. Hughes, s.r.n., s.c.m. Appointed 2/1/56

Miss P. Gant, s.r.n., T.B.CERT. Appointed 6/2/56

Mrs. D. Guyton, s.r.n., s.c.m. Appointed 1/7/56

Mrs. H. Harrison, S.R.N., S.C.M. Appointed 1/11/56

Clinic Nurse

Mrs. I. Roberts, s.r.n. Appointed 1/6/56

Municipal Midwives

Miss Ashton
Miss Phillips
Mrs. Samuels
Mrs Gaulton
Miss F. M. Stanley
Appointed 1/11/56

Chief Clerk

R. W. Hudson

Domestic Help Organiser ...

Miss M. H. Ashley

Occupation Centre Supervsr.

Miss M. E. Chappelle

[†]Certificate, Royal Sanitary Institute, Meat and Food Inspection

^{*}Certificate, Liverpool University, Meat and Food Inspection

HEALTH DEPARTMENT, ST. MARTIN'S HOUSE, CHESTER.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Perhaps the most important developments during 1956 have been the beginning of Slum Clearance, the rapid expansion of the Occupation Centre, the start of Poliomyelitis Vaccination and your decision to build both an Occupation Centre and a Clinic.

Chester is remarkable in that there are no purpose-built clinics in the City. Indeed, the question of accommodation generally is one which confronts us as a major problem.

I am pleased to note the economy, as well as the efficiency with which the Health Services function in the City. The statistics in the annual budget show the cost relative to the services and demonstrate that the Ambulance and Domestic Help Services are run below the average cost.

We continued to train pupil Public Health Inspectors in order to fill the staff vacancies: an additional attraction to candidates has been the ability to offer housing accommodation as most other authorities do. The severe shortage of midwives on a national scale was, of course, reflected in our own Service, The antenatal services of the City were reviewed.

I wish to express gratitude, which you have already voiced to those members of the staff who have carried on so meritoriously and without special reward in spite of staff deficiencies and difficulties in accommodation. It is surely that old spirit of loyal service and self sacrifice which enables us to maintain our high standard of efficiency at such a comparatively low expenditure.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

D. F. MORGAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS

	rea in acres					4659
	opulation (Registrar Gen Jumber of inhabited hous		ĺ		•••	58800
	Sateable Value			•• •••	•••	£881989
	Sum represented by a pen			•••	•••	£3656
	ann represented by a pen	ily race	•••	•••	•••	25050
	7	ITAL	STATI	STICS		
I	Live Births				Disal.	D-41 000
		Male	Female	Total	Birth P	Rate per 1,000 Opulation
	Legitimate	496	459	955		
	Illegitimate	24	27	51		
	Totals	520	486	1006		17-1
S	till Births					
J						n Rate per 1,000 nd Still) Births
		15	12	27		26.1
r	Deaths					
ľ	Catho					Rate per 1,000 opulation
	All Causes	350	352	702		11.9
ı,	Deaths of Infants under or	ıa vaar	old			
	reaches of finance under of	ie year	oiu			Rate per 1,000 live Births
	All Infants	21	15	36		35.7
ı						Rate per 1,000
۱	Legitimate Infants	21	14	35	legitim	ate Live Births 34.7
ı	Legitimate infants	21	14	33	Death	Rate per 1,000
¥					illegitin	nate Live Births
ï	Illegitimate Infants		1	1		19.6
II	Deaths from Certain Cause	es				
	o causa de la cale de				Death Total (Rate per 1,000 Live and Still) Births
ı	All Maternal Causes		1	1		0.95
ı	Tarinate in a constant		Ť	•		Rate per 1,000 Population
	Respiratory Tuberculosis	s 8	2	10		0.16
						Rate per 1,000 Population
	Other forms of "	2	2	4		0.06
						Rate per 1,000 Population
	Cancer	57	58	115		1.9

BIRTH RATE

The Birth Rat	e pcr 1,000	population	was 17·1.
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Comparative figures are as fol	lows:-	_			
England and Wales					 15.6
Chester (area comparability	factor	r (0.94)	applie	d)	 16.07

Still Births allocated to the City numbered 27, giving a rate of 26·1 per 1,000 total (live and still) births. This figure compared with 31·5 in 1955.

INFANT MORTALITY

There were 36 deaths in infants under one year compared with 15 in 1955. The mortality rate per 1,000 live births was 35.7 compared with 16.1 in 1955.

Comparative figures	are as fol	llows:-	_				
England and Wale	es						23.8
Chester (area com	parability	y factor	(1.10)	applied	l)		39-2
The actual causes of	death in	these	36 cases	s were	as follo	ws:—	
Pneumonia			•				1
Gastro-enteritis, d	liarrhoea				•••		1
Premature Births	•••		•••				21
Congenital Malfor	mation, l	Birth I	njuries (& Infar	ntile Di	sease	6
Atelectasis			•••			• • •	2
Asphyxia							1
All other causes							4

GENERAL DEATH RATE

There were 702 deaths in Chester residents giving a death rate of 11.9 per 1,000 population.

Comparative figures are as follows:—	
England and Walcs	 11.7
Chester (area comparability factor (1·10) applied)	 13.09

There were no deaths from Poliomyelitis.

458 deaths or 65% of the total deaths occurred in the age group 65 years and over.

Heart disease accounted for 214 deaths and other circulatory conditions for 36 deaths.

Bronchitis was the cause of death in 34 cases, pneumonia in 30 and other respiratory conditions in 6 cases.

There were 10 deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis and 4 deaths from other causes of tuberculosis.

There were no deaths from Diphtheria, Measles or Whooping Cough.

Cancer accounted for 115 deaths, of which 64 were in the age group 65 years and over, and 24 were of the lung or bronchus.

Deaths from Cancer of Lung and Bronchus

	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
Total No. of Deaths	564	646	538	521	614	680	702
Number of Deaths from Cancer of Lung and Bronchus	15	16	21	20	29	25	24
Percentage	2.66	2.48	3.72	3.84	4.72	3.68	3.41

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1. Tuberculosis, Respiratory 2. Tuberculosis, Other 3. Syphilitic Disease 4. Diphtheria 5. Whooping Cough 6. Meningococcal Infections 7. Acute Poliomyelitis 8. Measles 9. Other Inferve. & Parasitic diseases 10. Cancer, Breast 11. Cancer, Uterus 12. Cancer, Other 13. Cancer, Other 14. Cancer, Other 15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia 16. Diabetes 17. Vascular Lesions, Nervous System 18. Coronary Disease, Angina 19. Hypertension with Heart Disease 20. Heart Disease, Other 21. Other Circulatory Disorders 22. Influenza 23. Pneumonia 24. Bronchitis 25. Other Respiratory 26. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum 27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea 28. Nephritis and Nephrosis 29. Hyperplasia of Prostate 30. Pregnancy, Child Birth, Abortion 31. Congenital Malformations 32. Other Defined & Ill-defined Dis. 33. Motor Vehicle Accidents 34. All Other Accidents 35. Suicide 36. Homicide and Operations of War

VITAL STATISTICS OF DISTRICT FOR 1956 AND PREVIOUS YEARS

							11									
Rate per 1,000 Live Births	82.1	68.5	53.2	8.79	79.3	58.8	81.2	37.1	32.7	20.1	42.3	22.2	32.4	26.2	16.1	35.7
Deaths under One Year	62	52	41	56	64	54	84	32	29	16	33	19	27	25	15	36
Death Rate	12.8	12.1	12.6	13.2	13.5	12.8	14.0	12.2	12.1	11.5	13.5	11.2	10.8	10.5	11.7	11.9
Deaths	809	999	576	579	604	869	661	575	578	564	646	538	521	614	089	702
Birth Rate	15.7	16.3	16.9	18.8	18.1	19.7	22.1	18.2	18.6	16.4	16.4	17.8	17.2	16.4	15.9	17.1
Births	748	759	770	825	807	917	1046	863	988	795	780	854	831	954	934	1006
Estimated Population	47500	46570	45410	43880	44430	46460	47190	47190	47470	48680	47600	47900	48200	58100	58500	58800
Year	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

35 cases of measles and 101 of whooping cough were notified. The figures for 1955 were 772 and 113 respectively. Scarlet Fever cases numbered 50 compared with 14 in 1955.

Diphtheria—again no cases were notified. The last case in Chester occurred in 1951 in hospital.

Food poisoning notifications totalled 32, details of which are shown under the relevant heading.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR

DISEASE	Under 1 year	-	2	m	4	5—9	10—14	15—24	25—44	45—64	65 & over	Age un- known	Total all ages
Diphtheria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	m	2	2	3	4	32	1	0	0	0	0	0	50
Erysipelas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	1	1	3
Encephalitis Lethargica	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Typhoid	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	-
Para Typhoid	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Smallpox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	က	1	0	0	0	4
Measles	0	2	7	4	4	17	0	0	-	0	0	0	35
Whooping Cough	10	∞	13	22	13	31	0	2	1	0	0	_	101
Meningococcal Infection	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Pneumonia	2	0	-	0	0	2	2	1	3	7	11	0	32
Malaria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dysentery	6	10	5	9	14	∞	_	2	4	0	0	2	49
Poliomyelitis—Paralytic	0	1	0	2	0	-	0		0	0	0	0	2
Poliomyelitis—Non-Paralytic	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Food Poisoning	1	7	1	-	0	6	_	7	3	9	3	3	32
Acute Encephalitis-Infective	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Acute Encephalitis-Post Infectious	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

FOOD POISONING

Of the 32 cases notified, the corrected total for the year, excluding cases found to be due to Dysentery proved to be 16. 12 of these were single cases and it was not possible to trace the causative agent. Investigation of one of the remaining cases revealed a second (not notified) case, but examination of specimens and samples did not show any causative organism.

The remaining three cases formed part of a total of five who had sandwiches made in another area. The Medical Officer of Health was notified and specimens from these patients failed to show pathogenic organisms.

I would emphasise the necessity for immediate notification of Food Poisoning or suspected cases by telephone if possible. Only thus is it possible to prevent dangerously infected food being eaten by others. When in doubt it is better that a case be notified than to miss a person who may become a carrier and a danger at large.

PUBLIC HEALTH (TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1952

The total of new cases notified was 48, as detailed in the following table:

TUBERCULOSIS

				NEW CASES Non- Respiratory Respirator		n-	n'		Non- Respiratory		
				Kespi	ratory	Kespi	ratory	Kespi	ratory	Kespii	ratory
AGE PI	ERIOI	os		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—				1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1—				0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
2—				0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
5—				0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
10—				1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15—				2	6	0	0	0	0	0	0
20—				0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
25—				5	5	0	0	1	1	0	0
35—				6	2	0	1	1	0	0	0
45—				1	1	0	1	3	0	0	0
55—				8	2	0	0	2	1	0	0
65—				1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1
75—		•••	•••	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
Totals	• • •	•••		25	17	3	3	8	2	2	2

An account of Preventive and After-Care work is given under Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care, later in the report.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936, Section 172

There has been no occasion to enforce removal to Hospital of a patient suffering from Respiratory Tuberculosis.

VENEREAL DISEASE

Clinics are held at Chester Royal Infirmary as follows:—

Males-

Wednesdays, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Females—

Thursdays, 4-30 p.m. to 7-30 p.m.

The following is the number of Chester patients attending during each year for the last five years:—

		1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
Syphilis		6	5	5	9	6
Gonnorrhoea		13	12	3	7	11
Conditions other V.D	than 	27	43	28	42	59
		46	60	36	58	76

Warning must be given of the dangers of incomplete treatment. It is so casy to obtain drugs and antibiotics outside the clinics and to have incomplete treatment which relieves the initial symptoms of Venereal Disease (but does not cure it), that there is a real danger of the disease lighting up again in future years in much more serious and tragic forms.

Efforts were made to trace contacts and where case histories have been given, it has been possible—even with scanty information—to secure the co-operation of the patient or contact. I would congratulate the staff on their successes even when it seemed impossible on the information given, to trace people suffering from V.D.

LABORATORY SERVICES

The Pathological Departments of the Chester City Hospital, the Royal Infirmary and the Medical Research Council Laboratory at Birkenhead have continued to examine all types of specimens sent either by general practitioners or the Health Department.

There is excellent co-operation between the Laboratories and the Health Department.

SERVICES PROVIDED UNDER NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACTS

1. CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN (Section 22)

(i) Expectant and Nursing Mothers

The Antenatal Clinic which was formerly held at the Princess Street Clinic weekly, was closed down on 1st April 1954. Almost all of the patients were those whose confinements were booked in the City Hospital, which Hospital has its own Antenatal Clinics. It was suggested than an Antenatal Clinic attended by the Municipal Midwives might be run with advantage to Midwives and patients. Many Doctors are able to devote some time to the teaching of the hygiene of Pregnancy, Relaxation Exercises, preparing for the confinement and instruction in Analgesia, which would be taught at such a Clinic.

The possibility of a Consultant Antenatal Clinic, attended by Doctors of Consultant status was considered. Here it was felt that the facilities offered by the City Hospital were adequate to deal with the position.

(ii) Infant Welfare

The following Infant Welfare Clinics are held weekly, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.:—

Monday: St. Martin's House (Central Clinic)

Tuesday: Saltney (Institute, Hope Street) and Hoole (55, Hoole Road)

Wednesday: Blacon (Institute) and Boughton (Civil Defence H.Q.)

Thursday: St. Martin's House

Attendances at Blacon Clinic have been increasing with the growth of this suburb. Efforts were made to find alternative accommodation for the Infant Welfare Clinic there, and the question of building a new clinic was considered. All the clinic premises in Chester have been adapted—sometimes with scant success—for infant welfare purposes. It is not difficult to picture the resulting cold, draughty, noisy premises with steep stairs and dark, cramped rooms.

It is with some reasonable anticipation, therefore, that we look forward to the time when a municipal clinic—new and purpose-built—will be available at Blacon.

ST. MARTIN'S HOUSE INFANT WELFARE CENTRE

The following attendances were made during the year:—

	1955	1956
(a) By children under one year of age	2245	2105
(b) By children between the ages of one and five years	444	340
Consultations with Medical Officer:—		
(a) Children under one year, visits	574	688
(b) Children, one to five years, visits	107	137

SALTNEY INFANT WELFARE CENTRE

The following attendances were made during the year:—	
1955	1956
(a) By children under one year of age 794	739
(b) By children between the ages of one and five years 108	406
Consultations with Medical Officer:—	
(a) Children under one year, visits 185	251
(b) Children, one to five years, visits 57	96
BLACON INFANT WELFARE CENTRE	
The following attendances were made during the year:—	
1955	1956
(a) By children under one year of age 1252	1396
(b) By children between the ages of one and five years 309	266
Consultations with Medical Officer:—	
(a) Children under one year, visits 266	262
(b) Children, one to five years, visits 70	72
HOOLE INFANT WELFARE CENTRE	
HOOLE INFANT WELFARE CENTRE	
The following attendances were made during the year:—	
The following attendances were made during the year:— 1955	1956
The following attendances were made during the year:— 1955 (a) By children under one year of age 1494	1631
The following attendances were made during the year:— 1955 (a) By children under one year of age 1494 (b) By children between the ages of one and five years 252	
The following attendances were made during the year:— 1955 (a) By children under one year of age 1494 (b) By children between the ages of one and five years 252 Consultations with Medical Officer:—	1631 571
The following attendances were made during the year:— 1955 (a) By children under one year of age 1494 (b) By children between the ages of one and five years 252 Consultations with Medical Officer:— (a) Children under one year, visits 462	1631 571 537
The following attendances were made during the year:— 1955 (a) By children under one year of age 1494 (b) By children between the ages of one and five years 252 Consultations with Medical Officer:—	1631 571
The following attendances were made during the year:— 1955 (a) By children under one year of age 1494 (b) By children between the ages of one and five years 252 Consultations with Medical Officer:— (a) Children under one year, visits 462	1631 571 537
The following attendances were made during the year:— 1955 (a) By children under one year of age 1494 (b) By children between the ages of one and five years 252 Consultations with Medical Officer:— (a) Children under one year, visits 462 (b) Children, one to five years, visits 126	1631 571 537
The following attendances were made during the year:— 1955 (a) By children under one year of age 1494 (b) By children between the ages of one and five years 252 Consultations with Medical Officer:— (a) Children under one year, visits 462 (b) Children, one to five years, visits 126 BOUGHTON INFANT WELFARE CENTRE	1631 571 537
The following attendances were made during the year:— 1955 (a) By children under one year of age 1494 (b) By children between the ages of one and five years 252 Consultations with Medical Officer:— (a) Children under one year, visits 462 (b) Children, one to five years, visits 126 BOUGHTON INFANT WELFARE CENTRE The following attendances were made during the year:—	163157153756
The following attendances were made during the year:— 1955 (a) By children under one year of age 1494 (b) By children between the ages of one and five years 252 Consultations with Medical Officer:— (a) Children under one year, visits 462 (b) Children, one to five years, visits 126 BOUGHTON INFANT WELFARE CENTRE The following attendances were made during the year:— 1955 (a) By children under one year of age 10 (b) By children between the ages of one and five years 2	1631 571 537 56
The following attendances were made during the year:— 1955 (a) By children under one year of age 1494 (b) By children between the ages of one and five years 252 Consultations with Medical Officer:— (a) Children under one year, visits 462 (b) Children, one to five years, visits 126 BOUGHTON INFANT WELFARE CENTRE The following attendances were made during the year:— 1955 (a) By children under one year of age 10	1631 571 537 56 1956 1106
The following attendances were made during the year:— 1955 (a) By children under one year of age 1494 (b) By children between the ages of one and five years 252 Consultations with Medical Officer:— (a) Children under one year, visits 462 (b) Children, one to five years, visits 126 BOUGHTON INFANT WELFARE CENTRE The following attendances were made during the year:— 1955 (a) By children under one year of age 10 (b) By children between the ages of one and five years 2	1631 571 537 56 1956 1106

(iii) Premature Infants

The Premature Baby Unit at the City Hospital was able to cope with most babies below $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. so that few were nursed at home. Such nursing equipment as was necessary in the home was available on loan from the District Nurses' Home.

By arrangement with the Physician-in-Charge, the Health Visitors attended at the Premature Baby Unit of the Hospital. Staff shortages prevented as full attendance as would have been liked. On discharge home, Premature Babies were visited by the Health Visitors.

Excellent co-operation was maintained between the Department and the Premature Baby Unit of the City Hospital.

(iv) Supply of Dried Milks, etc. (Welfare Foods)

National Dried Milk and all Welfare Foods and nutrients under the Government Welfare Foods Scheme are available at all the Infant Welfare Clinics. Clerical work is undertaken by the Council's Staff. Many other kinds of Dried Milk Foods and Nutrients are also available at the Clinics, and the Council's Scheme provides for the free issue of these to necessitous cases.

On 9th August, 1954, the Sale of Welfare Foods, which had formerly been a function of the Ministry of Food and which had recently been taken over by the Local Health Authority, was transferred to premises at the Bishop Graham's School, Princess Street.

Two full time Clerks were employed for the Sale of National Dried Milk, Orange Juice, Cod Liver Oil and Vitamin Tablets, and they, together with the Staff of the Department, carried out the necessary clerical and recording work. The Centre at Princess Street is open daily from 9 a.m. to 5-30 p.m. and from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays.

Two Distribution Centres were open in Blacon.

It should be noted that, because of shortage of staff and restricted accommodation, it is not possible to permit the sale of Welfare Food to the general public at Infant Welfare Clinics. We manage, however, to make these foods available for parents who attend the Clinic regularly.

(v) Dental Care

Under the new priority scheme, the priority classes may attend at the Dental Clinic, Princess Street, on any Wednesday afternoon. A full service is provided and all treatment is free.

Both Dental Officers are employed for this service and it was estimated that there would be no detriment to the School Dental Services.

(a) Numbers provided with Dental Care:

	Examined	Needing Treat- ment	Treated	Made Dentally Fit
Expectant and Nursing Mothers	75	70	66	43
Children under five	201	170	170	170

(b) Forms of Dental Treatment provided:

European and	Scalings and Gum Treatment	Fillings	Silver Nitrate Treatment	Crowns or Inlays	Extractions	General Anaesthetics	Full Upper or Lower	Partial Upper or Lower	Radiographs
Expectant and Nursing Mothers	13	110			226	26	10	9	6
Children under five	_	75	74	_	279	123	_	_	_

(vi) Institutional Provision for Mothers and Children

The Maternity Department of the City Hospital provides the necessary accommodation for a wide area.

The Paediatric Department at the City Hospital has accommodation for marasmic and ailing babies and premature infants.

Healthy children up to the age of three are admitted to Kingston House and children over the age of three to Eaton Park View, Wrexham Road, both being administered by the Child Carc Committee of the City Council. Periodic examinations and examinations on admission and discharge are carried out by the Medical Officers of the Health Department.

CARE OF UNMARRIED MOTHERS AND THEIR BABIES

Where application for accommodation in Voluntary Mother and Baby Homes was made, the Chester and District Moral Welfare Association enquired into the case and found accommodation in a Home. The Council contributed towards the cost, the normal period being from six weeks before to six weeks after the expected confinement, with the possibility of extension where necessary in the interests of mother and baby.

The cases were followed up at home by the Health Visitors.

Under the Scheme, four unmarried mothers were assisted during the year, compared with one in 1955. These were brought to the notice of the Health Committee by the Chester and District Moral Welfare Association and I would like to pay tribute to the Outdoor Worker for the work she has

done in investigating and arranging for the accommodation of these cases, as well as for other Chester cases not assisted by the Corporation.

It is not an easy matter to find vacancies in the right kind of Mother and Baby Home, and still less to interview putative fathers to try to get them to accept their responsibilities. Yet in all the cases assisted by the Corporation investigations of this nature were carried out and, where necessary, the expectant mother was advised to apply for an Affiliation Order.

NURSES' ACT

Two agencies were licensed under the above Act for the provision of Private Nurses.

NURSING HOMES

With the cancellation of the Registration of one Nursing Home by the Manager, only one Nursing Home remains on the Register.

NURSERY AND CHILD MINDERS (REGULATION) ACT, 1948

Three premises are registered under this Act. Visits are made by the Medical Officers and Health Visitors as occasion demands.

2. MIDWIFERY (Section 23)

The Chester City Council employs six Full-time Municipal Midwives for Domiciliary work, under the supervision of a Lay Supervisor (who is Superintendent Health Visitor).

Antenatal care of women to be confined at the City Hospital is carried out at the Hospital's Clinic.

The Health Committee considered the report of the central standing maternity and child welfare advisory committee, which had been circulated to all Authorities and delegates attended a meeting of the professional representatives of the bodies concerned with Antenatal care in the City. The question of a municipal Antenatal Clinic was referred to a future meeting of the Local Medical Committee. It will be recalled that the Antenatal clinic run by the Local Health Authority at Princess Street Clinic was closed down for lack of support in April, 1954.

All Corporation Midwives are trained in the administration of Gas and Air Analgesia, and also in the use of the newer Trilene Apparatus.

Each Midwife is provided with a gas and air apparatus and a trilene apparatus. The cost of servicing each trilene apparatus every six months

was considered to be too high and representations were made to the makers and Central Midwives Board thereon.

Close co-operation was maintained between the Municipal Midwives and the doctors undertaking Domiciliary Midwifery, and the Medical Aid Scheme provided for adequate medical attendance at the confinement, the Doctors' fees being paid either under their arrangements with the Executive Council, or by the Corporation (if another Doctor had to be called).

60 cases were so attended.

The City Hospital referred to the Health Department those cases who wished to book confinements at the Hospital, but did not fall into one of the necessitous groups, and, where home circumstances permitted, arrangements were made for confinement at home. Conversely, where home circumstances rendered home confinement undesirable, the case was referred to the City Hospital.

The nation-wide shortage of Midwives was felt and difficulties were experienced in keeping the staff up to establishment. Extension of the period of service after retiring age and the offer of housing accommodation in necessitous cases have helped to keep the Midwifery Service going.

Each Midwife is equipped with, and trained in, the use of Blood Pressure Apparatus for the early detection of the Toxaemias of Pregnancy.

281 confinements were attended by the Municipal Midwives as Midwives and 29 as Maternity Nurses.

Statistics No. of cases attended as Midwives 281 No. of cases attended as Maternity Nurses 29 No. of antenatal visits 2289 No. of daily nursing visits ... 5448 No. of cases receiving analgesia:— (a) Trilene 124 (b) Gas and Air ... 46 Doctors called in by Midwives 60 Notification of Births Total number of births notified 1958 Cases attended and delivered by the doctors 29 Cases attended in Nursing Homes 213 Cases attended and delivered by midwives 281 Cases attended in Hospitals 1435 No. of Still Births ... 42

Of the 281 births attended by Midwives, in 60 cases Medical Aid was required. The necssity arose from the following causes:—

Lacerated perinaeum							20
Haemorrhage							9
Illness of child						•••	9
Complication before lab	our			•••	• • •		(31)
Complication during lab	our			•••		•••	6
Complication during 'lyi	ing-in	' period	• • •	•••	• • •	• • •	4
Temperature		•••					2
Abnormality of child		•••		•••	• • •	•••	
Stillbirth						• • •	5
Prematurity	•••		•••	•••	• • •		5
					Tot	al	60

Ophthalmia Neonatorum

No cases were notified during the year.

3. HEALTH VISITING (Section 24)

Eight full-time Health Visitor-School Nurses are employed, and a Superintendent who is also Supervisor of Midwives.

The duties of the staff are divided into half School work and half Health Visitors' work. Under the latter, there were various Clinics to attend—Immunisations, B.C.G., Infant Welfare, Sunlight, Dental Anaesthetics and visits to Hospitals—while the visits to homes were made for many special functions in addition to the usual visits under Maternal and Infant Welfare and Care of the Sick; special visits included:—

- (a) Aged Sick
- (b) Tuberculosis
- (c) Mental Defectives
- (d) Lunacy Act
- (e) Problem Families
- (f) V.D. Contacts
- (g) Cancer Research
- (h) National Survey of Nutrition etc.

In the cases of children discharged after In-Patient Treatment, the Hospitals sent to the Health Department copies of the reports to the General Medical Practitioners and following-up visits were made by the Health Visitor-School Nurses.

The following visits were paid by the Health Visitors (excluding School Nurses' work):—

Primary Birth Visits		 	 	987
Return Visits		 	 	4743
Visits to children (one to five ye	ars)	 	 	7570
Visits to Expectant Mothers		 	 	288
Other Visits		 	 	2428
Visits to Midwives		 	 	17
Visits to cases of Tuberculosis		 	 	519

The Health Visitors attended a course in Health Education arranged by the staff of Flintshire County Council.

4. HOME NURSING SERVICE (Section 25)

The District Nurses' Home is affiliated to the Queen's Institute of District Nursing, and provides residence for the Superintendent and six District Nurses. Owing to recruitment difficulties, it has been necessary to appoint some Nurses not resident at the Home, but who take their turn of night duty.

No regular Night Shift is worked, but a rota of Evening and Emergency Duty is done by all Nursing Staff. The total staff employed at the end of the year was the Superintendent, six full-time District Nurses and two part-time Nurses.

No special provision of staff was made for the Home Nursing of Sick Children, and none of the staff specialised in this branch of the work. It is the practice, however, to give priority to sick children in order to relieve the burden on the parents and to educate them in this work.

One District Nurse attended a **Refresher Course** during the year, bringing this Service into alignment with other Medical and Nursing Services of the Authority.

Transport Arrangements

The Committee had under consideration the provision of transport for the District Nurses. Bicycles are provided by the Corporation and these have been renewed. Where the nurses use their own motor-cycles or scooters a travelling allowance is given.

Nursing equipment is available and during the year 208 articles were on lloan or hire.

The following table gives an analysis of the work done:—

HOME NURSING SERVICE

Cases receiving

					24					
Ing Total	158	190	175	170 4096	115 2002	138	147	197	1290 28110	and, of 71, 71, 73, 73, 73, 73, 73, 73, 73, 73, 73, 73
cases receiving more cd than 24 r 5 Visits T	10	53	38	33	21	30	40	34	235	or over and, of to these.
Aged under 5	7 21	6 25	10	8 20	10 145	62	5	10 50	62 357	aged 65 c were paid the ed full time by each d
Aged 65 & Injections, over on Others First Visit	84 2136	92 2255	73 1740	79 2234	26 931	60 1566	78 2509	106	598 15682	98 were 15,682 v employ worked vorked
Injection 1 Others	58 1021	76 1559	76 1398	80 1720	52 832	46 1258	58 903	84 1824	530 10515	he 1,290 cases attended, 5 the total visits (28,110), average number of nurses average number of hours average number of hours
Tuber- culosis Maternal	11	1 17	1-1	22	4 4 4	11	11	11	7 53	the 1,290 cases atten the total visits (28 average number of average number of
Tuber-	43	5	п к	2 75	2 88	11	391	95	17 751	the 1,290 the tot c average of average c average c average c average c
Infectious Disease			1 2	1-1	4 20	1-1	1.1	1-1	6 23	Of th The The The
Surgical	9 571	22 568	17	18	16 546	20 385	24 1208	26	152 4877	and 192 1098 189
Medical	89	85 1288	80 1795	68 1764	37 501	72 1406	62 1631	85 2003	578 11891	
	Cases Visits	its in 1955 vely. rried over f								
DISTRICTS	NEWTON	BOUGHTON	SALTNEY	HANDBRIDGE	BLACON	GARDEN LANE	CENTRAL	HOOLE	TOTALS	The total numbers of Cases and Visits in 1955 were 1,267 29,394 respectively. Number of cases on books, 1-1-56, carried over from 1955 Number of new cases Number of cases on books at 31-12-56

5. VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION (Section 26)

With the commencement, last year, of B.C.G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis, the following immunological facilities are provided by the Council:—

- (1) Vaccination against Smallpox
- (2) Immunisation against Diphtheria
- (3) Immunisation against Whooping Cough
- (4) B.C.G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis
- (5) Vaccination against Tetanus
- (6) Vaccination against Poliomyelitis

(1) Vaccination against Smallpox

Because of the excessive wastage in holding stocks of vaccine lymph at the Health Department, all cases requesting Vaccination are referred to their own General Medical Practitioners. International Certificates of Vaccination were authenticated by the Medical Officer of Health. In emergency (i.e., on the threat of possible contact with cases of Smallpox), all the staff of the Department are offered vaccination.

	Number Re-Vaccinated
157	_
126	
30	_
35	8
20	59
368	67
	Vaccinated 157 126 30 35 20

(2) Immunisation against Diphtheria

Parents are given the option of having this done by their own General Medical Practitioner or of attending the Clinics. Children of pre-school age are immunised at the Infant Welfare Clinics (q.v.), and school children receive their injections and reinforcing doses at the end of the School Medical Inspections.

Records of these—and all—immunisations are kept in the Department and are transferred on change of address.

The Table on the following page shows the number of children immunised against Diphtheria.

(3) Immunisation against Whooping Cough

This is available on request from the patient's own Doctor or at the Infant Welfare Clinics, and is usually—though not necessarily—given in conjunction with Diphtheria Immunisation. Three injections are necessary.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Age in Years 31st Dec, of the corres- ponding year.	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	Total inocu- lated 1942-1956
0		•••			•••	10	•••	16	14	18	123	109	39	43	89	Age under I year
1	320	221	184	230	243	288	191	378	284	217	233	215	329	284	458	
2	202	113	80	102	108	84	294	140	74	58	70	32	101	97	114	Age 1—4 years
3	184	63	37	37	40	39	78	35	24	21	39	19	50	29	58	2050
4	20	54	32	29	31	44	55	30	57	27	18	20	36	28	51	
5	308	88	174	118	73	84	96	61	163	48	50	76	88	30	104	
6	374	59	61	87	54	54	60	41	58	15	33	78	53	17	221	Age 5-9 yrs
7	201	62	28	28	44	17	51	6	17	2	20	21	16	11	92	Completed: 1952-19561413
8	134	42	10	15	58	11	20		6	2	20	2	6	3	22	earlier1472
9	147	43	11	12	49	12	6	2	6	3	10	1	3	1	7	2885
10	111	36	9	12	46	6	9	6	5	1	5		2	3	12	
11	89	30	9	2	45	13	6	8	12	3	5	•••	2	9	19	Age 10-14 yrs.
12	82	21	6	3	36	5	4	6	2			3	1	6	19	Completed: 1952-1956 198 1951 or
13	54	29	2	•••	26	7	3	2			• • •				•••	earlier2942
14	20	28	5	2	75	2	3	4	12	5	•••		•••		3	3140
15 and over	•••	18	•••	•••		15	3	2					•••	5	1	Age 15 years and over 4467
Total each Year	2246	907	648	677	928	691	879	737	734	420	626	576	726	566	1270	GRAND TOTAL 12631
Re- Inoculations	•••	0 0 0	• • •		1987	955	609	1023	786	698	676	965	893	1044	1563	Total Re-Inoculations 11199

(4) B.C.G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis

In accordance with the approved scheme, vaccination with B.C.G. against Tuberculosis was offered to all pupils at school in the City between their 13th and 14th birthdays. 406 were tested and, where necessary, vaccinated intradermally with B.C.G. Very few abnormal reactions were reported.

As the scheme is continuous—year after year—the effect of this measure in reducing the incidence of 'adult' Pulmonary Tuberculosis will gradually become apparent in the years to come. It is noted, however, that statistically the results have been good in countries where B.C.G. Vaccination has been adopted for some little time. Many factors may be given as the cause of the diminishing incidence of T.B., but it would be unwise not to adopt B.C.G.—or any other satisfactory procedure—in this country, which might lessen the distressing incidence of Tuberculosis.

Reciprocal arrangements were made for the vaccination of Cheshire County Pupils at Chester Schools, and City Pupils at Schools in the County.

No. of Pupils tested	 	 	 406
No. of these Mantoux Positive	 	 	 89
No. of these Mantoux Negative	 	 	 317
No. given B.C.G. Vaccination	 	 	 316

The Medical Officers of the Authority who carried out the Mantoux testing, and subsequent vaccination, attended a course of special instruction therein.

(5) Anti-Tetanus Immunisation

The combination of a vaccine against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus (lock jaw) has proved beneficial and, in spite of the relatively few cases of Tetanus the use of this 'triple Antigen' has a vogue.

Certainly in no disease more than in Tetanus is prevention better and more worth while than cure—especially as the cure of established Tetanus is extremely chancy.

The Triple Antigen is available to Doctors in the City on request or may be given at the Infant Welfare Clinics. The purpose of the combination is to avoid injections over and above those already necessary for protection against Diphtheria and Whooping Cough,

(6) Poliomyelitis Vaccination

Under the Ministry Scheme for immunisation of children against Infantile Paralysis, children born between 1st January, 1947, and 31st December, 1954, were registered and when limited supplies of the vaccine became available certain groups were selected (centrally) and offered immunisation. Between July and November, no injections were given because of the (presumed) risk of inducing Paralysis.

Because of the severe limitation of supplies only the local authority's medical officers gave the injections in 1956. It is sincerely hoped that supplies will rapidly become available so that all Doctors may immunise any children and people of all ages.

At the end of 1956, the position was:—

No. of children registered for polio vaccination	 	1867
No. who had received two injections (completed)	 	176
No. who had received one injection (incomplete)	 	16
No. awaiting injection	 	1675

To put this disease and its prevention in its proper perspective, notwithstanding the tragic and awful severity of certain cases, the number of cases of Infantile Paralysis notified in Chester in past years has been:—

		No. of Paralytic N	No. of Ion-Paralyti	c	
Year		Cases	Cases	Total	Deaths
1950		5	1	6	0
1951		1	2	3	0
1952	•••••	2	0	2	0
1953	•••••	9	1	10	0
1954	•••••	2	1	3	1
1955	••••••	5	1	6	1
1956	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	5	1	6	0

6. AMBULANCE SERVICE (Section 27)

The City Ambulance Service also operates a service by agreement for contiguous parts of the Counties of Cheshire and Flintshire.

The Staff consists of an Officer-in-Charge, 15 Driver/Attendants and one Clerk/Telephonist.

I am pleased to report that better co-operation was maintained with the Hospitals, so that long ambulance journeys which should have been undertaken by public transport, have not been so frequent. Ministry of Health Circulars have emphasised that transport should not be expected because a patient has luggage, nor should relatives be called to travel with the patient to the exclusion of other patients.

I would like to pay tribute to the conscientiousness of the general medical practitioners regarding their ambulance requests. It is only very rarely that ambulance journeys requested by them have been unnecessary.

It will be noted that the total mileage run by the Ambulances is increasing year by year.

Year		Total Miles		Total Number of Patients Carried
1951	•••••	64,685	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	7,662
1952		64,221		7,903
1953		66,065	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	10,600
1954		73,250		15,753
1955	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	82,396	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	17,408
1956		83,227		19,766

The periodic maintenance of the vehicles by the Transport Department has resulted in a better standard of upkeep and reliability than was possible hitherto, and credit is also due to the Ambulance Staff for their part in the care and maintenance of the vehicles.

Vehicles. After much consideration it was decided to dispense with two ambulances of pre-war type (but post-war construction). They were replaced by two modern vehicles. This brought the fleet of ambulances up to date and it only remains now for them to be kept up to date by replacement when they are no longer economical to run.

The supply of petrol to the Ambulance Vehicles demanded our attention when it was found that the charge for handling the supply was higher than many other Local Authorities. Bound up with this question was that of providing a more suitable Ambulance Depot which could cope with the increased number of vehicles, and the increasing work of the Department. I do not consider that the expense involved in fitting the Ambulances out with Radio Telephones would be justified yet. Account must be taken of the size of the area served and the increasing provision by the County Councils for that part of their area covered by the City Service.

The table on the following page gives particulars of the work carried out during the financial year ended 31st March, 1957.

AMBULANCE SERVICE—Year ended 31st March, 1957

		JOURNEYS	NEYS					PA	TIEN	PATIENTS CARRIED	RIE	Q					MILEAGE	AGE	
Authority		(1) (2)	3		Str	(3) tretcher	1er		(4) Sitting		Acc	(5) Accident and Emergency	(5) Accident and Emergency	9	Ę		(7)	8)	
	Ą.	Ś	o.	O. Total	Α.	s,	S. Total	Ą.	s.	Total A. S. Total O.	¥.	S.	Fotal	0.	(3 & 4)	Ä.	ઝં	0.	Total
City	2245	1973	797	2245 1973 797 4218	2201	5 2	206	5168	9618	14786	598	53	651	7217	5 2206 5168 9618 14786 598 53 651 7217 16992	32072	32072 33429	8043 65501	65501
Cheshire	262	262 168		430	485		485	277	1795	2072	205	ν.	210	1480	485 277 1795 2072 205 5 210 1480 2557	8373	8373 7352 3473 15725	3473	15725
Flintshire	136	T		211	- 98		98	44	72	72 116 33 3 36	33	3	36		202	1210	1210 571		1781
	3	4		7	70		√.		10	10	1			1	15	92	128]	220
	2646	2220	797	Totals 2646 2220 797 4866 2777	7777	70	282	5489	11495	16984	836	61	897	8697	5 2782 5489 11495 16984 836 61 897 8697 19766	41747	41747 41480 11516 83227	11516	83227

NOTE: A.—Ambulance; S.—Sitting Case Vehicle; O.—Occupation Centre.

Column 1 includes Column 2; Columns 3 and 4 includes Columns 5 and 6; Column 7 includes Column 8.

7. PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER-CARE (Section 28)

(i) Tuberculosis

The Tuberculosis Medical Officer of the Regional Hospital Board at the City Hospital is employed on one session per week for Preventive and After Care Work. B.C.G. Vaccinations were done at the Chest Clinic.

The B.C.G. Scheme for vaccination of School Children was started during 1955. Details are given under the appropriate section.

A system of weekly cross-notification between the Health Department and the Chest Clinic (City Hospital) ensures continuity of Preventive measures. There was close liaison between the Chest Clinic and the Health Department. One Health Visitor is appointed to attend at the Clinic and to visit Tuberculosis Patients in their homes. A great improvement in the liaison between the two centres is apparent. One Domestic Help for work in Tuberculosis Households was also appointed.

A list of Domestic Helps willing to work in Tuberculosis Households was made. The Tuberculosis Health Visitor attended a special refresher course in September, 1956.

I would like to thank the Doctors and Staff of the Clinic for their great help during the year. Preventive Tuberculosis work has been enhanced and has assumed a more concrete and purposeful form. It was easier also to assess the relative needs for rehousing of Tuberculosis Families and much greater activity in this field was possible.

Residential After Care at Wrenbury Hall (County Council) and Preston Hall Colonies was provided for selected cases, and the Council also contributed towards the cost of patients at other Tuberculosis Colonies.

Home Nursing Equipment was available on loan, and the Council has provided a Garden Shelter in one case.

No. of patients receiving B.C.G. Vaccination through	Ches	st Cl	inic	102
No. of visits to patients by Health Visiting Staff				519
No. of patients assisted in T.B. Colonics				3
No. of Contacts (City) examined at Chest Clinic				615
No. of these found to have Pulmonary Tuberculosis				5

Contacts of patients notified as dying from Tuberculosis are investigated in the same way as those notified during life. Employment conditions are investigated in all notified cases and there is liaison between the Chest Clinic and the Medical Officer of Health from this aspect.

(ii) Blind Persons

The Chester and District Blind Welfare Society give the following data:

	On Re	egister	New Cas	ses 1956	Death	ıs 1956
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Blind	38	51	7	5	_	7
Partially Sighted	2	9	1	1		1

A.—Follow up of Registered Blind and Partially Sighted Persons

	(Cause of Dis	ability	
(i) No. of cases registered during year in respect of which para. 7(c) of Forms B.D.8 recommends:	Cataract	Glaucoma	Retrolental Fibroplasia	Other
(a) No treatment		3		2
(b) Treatment (Medical Surgical or Optical)	7			2
(ii) Number of cases at (i) (b) above which on follow-up action have received treatment	_	_		2
B.—Oph	thalmia Neo	natorum		

(i) Total number of cases notified during the year	Nil.
(ii) Number of cases in which:—	

a. Vision lost

b. Vision impairedc. Treatment continuing at end of year

Nil.

The number of Children on the register totals four. One is at home, two attend Special Schools for the Blind and one attends a Special School for the Partially-Sighted.

(iii) Epileptics and Spastics

Epileptic and Spastic children of school age are dealt with under the Education Acts.

One adult epileptic is maintained at a Colony by the Welfare Committee. Four adult spastics are on the register, two of whom attend a handicrafts class and are transported by Ambulance.

The following local health authority services cater for cases of illness at home:—

- (a) Health Visitors
- (b) District Nurses
- (c) Domestic Helps

In addition, Nursing Equipment is available on loan or hire from the Superintendent, District Nurses' Home and also from some voluntary organisations in the City. A small rental is charged for articles hired, but in necessitous cases even this may be varied.

The number of articles loaned by the Authority under this scheme during 1956 was 208.

The Liaison between hospitals and patients ill at home has been enhanced by the Health Visitor service. The Health Visitors have reported on home circumstances where it appeared to be undesirable to have a patient nursed at home.

The Health Visitors paid 2,428 visits to cases of illness at home.

8. DOMESTIC HELPS (Section 29).

Twelve Full time Domestic Helps and one Organiser were employed. One special Help, for Tuberculosis families, was appointed temporarily and subsequently retained on the staff when a vacancy occurred. Because so many elderly sick people live alone, a great strain was put on the staff and, in many cases, an almost impossible situation was relieved by the kindness of neighbours. It will be remembered that sons and daughters have sometimes great difficulty in looking after aged sick parents when the house is small or the housewife goes—or has to go—out to work. An ageing population will of necessity make greater and greater demands on the Chronic Sick Hospital Accommodation as years go on. We have felt the pinch early in Chester, and the prospect is gloomy indeed.

No Night Sitter Service has yet been established. Provision is made in the future for the emergency employment of Night Sitter. It is noted that several other authorities have, after a trial, given up the esablishment of a Night Sitter Service. Fifty-Two per cent. of the number of hours worked were for the aged, chronic sick and infirm cases.

Type of Case	No of Cases	Hours Worked
(a) Acute Illness	35	9406
(b) Maternity	21	1474
(c) Tuberculosis	1	38
(d) Aged, Infirm and Chronic Sick	58	12084
(e) Mental Illness and Mental Deficiency	1	138
	116	23140

HEALTH EDUCATION

Talks were given in the Infant Welfare Clinics to groups of mothers by Health Visitors. Pamphlets and Posters were exhibited in the Infant Welfare Clinics, Dental Clinic and the Health Department.

Illustrated lectures to Food Handlers were given by the Staff during the year.

Members of the Staff of Public Health Inspectors and of Health Visitors undertook to give some lectures in the training course for Nurses at the Royal Infirmary.

9. MENTAL HEALTH

Administration

The Staff employed consisted of the Medical Officer of Health, the Assistant Medical Officers of Health (all three of whom are approved for the purposes of the Ascertainment and Certification of Mental Defectives), two part-time Duly Authorised Officers and such services of Health Visitors as were necessary. No Psychiatric Social Workers or Mental Health Workers are employed.

Patients on trial from Mental Hospitals and on leave or licence from Mental Deficiency Hospitals were supervised by the Authorised Officers. Health Visitors or, in special cases, by the Medical Officer of Health. Reports were received from the Mental Hospitals of patients on discharge therefrom.

No duties were delegated to Voluntary Organisations.

Prevention of Mental Illness

Owing to lack of patients' support it was unfortunately necessary to close down the After Care Club in June, 1956.

	Lunac	y and M	iental	Treat	ment	Acts	
The foll	lowing	numbers	of Pa	atients	were	dealt	with:—

1956	Certi	fied	Volu	ntary	Sect.	20-21	No A	ction	After Vis	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
	6	7	107	111	25	29	16	9	33	35
Totals	 1	3	21	18	5	4	25	5	6	8
Discharged	 2	1	86	94	15	21				
Died	 1	1	6	3	2	2				

The Duly Authorised Officers' Report

During the year there has again been a steady increase in the number of Voluntary Patients. The bed situation is still very acute, patients often having to wait from 3 to 6 days for admission. This necessitates frequent visits to their homes, pending a vacancy. In the event of an emergency, it necessitates conveying patients to Birkenhead Mental Hospital.

Attempted Suicides number 12, a decrease of 19.

We thank the Medical Officer of Health for his assistance in all matters, also the Justices for the City and County for their co-operation regarding certification and Sect. 20 and 21.

The Mental Deficiency Acts, 1913-38:—

(i) Ascertainment of Mental Defectives is carried out by the Medical Officer of Health and 2 Assistant Medical Officers of Health. In border-line cases, the policy, especially with children, has been to give them every opportunity for Education (in special classes if need be) before reaching a final decision on their non-educability. After notification to the Local Health Authority, re-examination is carried out as an additional check. Particularly difficult cases are referred to the Regional Hospital Board's Consultant Psychiatrist who has special experience in such cases.

Statutory and Voluntary Supervision is the work of the Health Visitors, though special cases may be visited by the Medical Officers. The normal period for visits is three-monthly, though it will be appreciated that stable cases may only require visits annually, and difficult cases may require more frequent supervision. Certain of these visits may also be done by the Authorised Officers.

(ii) Guardianship

There were no Mental Defectives under Guardianship in the City of Chester.

(iii) Occupation Centre

A rapid increase in the number of pupils attending the Occupation Centre made it necessary to appoint an Assistant Supervisor (male). Then it became possible to start a class of manual instruction for senior boys. The provision of free milk ($\frac{1}{3}$ -pint per child per day) was taken over from the Ministry of Food by the Local Authority, and the charge for dinners was considered and remained the same, in spite of rising costs, at 9d. for younger children and 1/- for the pupils over 16 years.

Because of the increasing size of the Centre, which now caters for pupils from the adjoining County Areas, the present premises, which we entered in 1953, were found to be inadequate, and application was made to the Ministry for permission to build a new Centre. The members of the Committee had already visited the specially built Occupation Centre at Wigan, while the staff also visited the Centre at Widnes. Both visits proved most valuable, interesting and informative.

Summer Camp was not favoured by the parents of the pupils, so instead, daily outings were arranged for suitable pupils.

Transport to the Centre is provided by the Ambulance Service and is unique in Chester in that all pupils are taken directly from their own homes.

Owing to a breakdown in the Central Heating at the Centre it was closed for a few days in February. The gift of a piano from the Chester and District Handicapped Children's Society is acknowledged with gratitude.

(iv) Other Services—Short Term Care

As a new departure, the Committee decided to give financial help in necessitous cases to parents of Defectives who had to be admitted to private accommodation for Short Term Care. Even with the opening up of Regional Hospital Board Accommodation—New and Old for Short Term Care, there was a gross insufficiency of Hospital beds for these defectives and in some cases private accommodation had to be found.

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946 MENTAL DEFICIENCY ACTS, 1913—1938

Local Health Services

		age		an	ıd
	Particulars of Cases reported during 1956	M .	F.		
	(a) Cases ascertained to be defectives 'subject to				
	be dealt with'		-		_
	Number in which action taken on reports by:				
	(1) Local Education Authorities on children				
	(i) While at school or liable to attend	2			
	school	2 –	_		
	(ii) On leaving special schools		_		Ţ
	(iii) On leaving ordinary schools (2) Police or by Courts		_		
	(2) Police of by Courts (3) Other sources	2 -			
	(b) Cases reported who were found to be defect-	~			
	ives but were not, at 31st December, 1955,				
	regarded as 'subject to be dealt with' on any				
	ground		_		
	(c) Cases reported who were not regarded as				
	defectives and are thus excluded from (a) or (b)		_		
	(d) Cases reported in which action was in-				
	complete at 31st December, 1956, and are thus				
	excluded from (a) or (b)		_	_	_
	TOTAL	4			
	TOTAL	4 –	_	_	1
2.	Disposal of Cases reported during 1956 (a) Of the Cases ascertained to be defectives 'subject to be dealt with' (i.e., at 1(a)), number				
	(i) Placed under Statutory Supervision	4 –	-		1
	(ii) Placed under Guardianship		_	_	_
	(iii) Taken to 'Places of Safety'		_	_	
	(iv) Admitted to Hospitals (b) Of the Cases not ascertained to be defectives		_		
	'subject to be dealt with' (i.e., at 1(b)),				
	number				
	(i) Placed under Voluntary Supervision				
	(ii) Action unnecessary		_	_	
	· ·				
	TOTAL	4 –	_	—	1
)	N. I. CH. ID.C.				
aı	Number of Mental Defectives for whom care was tranged by the Local Health Authority under discular 5/52 during 1956 and admitted to:				
	(a) National Health Service hospitals	1 _			1
	(b) Elsewhere		1		
	TOTAL	1	1	_	1

4. Total Cases on Authority's Registers at 31/12/56 (i) Under Statutory Supervision (ii) Under Guardianship (iii) In 'Places of Safety' (iv) In Hospitals (v) Under Voluntary Supervision	11 1 	11 1 	23 — — 26 9	26 — 16 12
TOTAL	12	12	58	54
5. Number of defectives under Guardianship on 31st December, 1956, who were dealt with under the provisions of Section 8 or 9, Mental Deficiency Act, 1913. (Included in 4(ii)) 6. Classification of defectives in the Community on 31/12/56 (according to need at that date) (a) Cases included in 4(i)—(iii) in need of hospital care and reported accordingly to the hospital authority:—	_	_		
(1) In urgent need of hospital care:— (i) 'Cot and Chair' Cases (ii) Ambulant Low Grade Cases (iii) Medium Grade Cases (iv) High Grade Cases	1 3 —	$\frac{1}{1}$	-4 2 1	1 2 —
Total Urgent Cases	4	2	7	3
(2) Not in urgent need of hospital care:— (i) 'Cot and Chair' Cases (ii) Ambulant Low Grade Cases (iii) Medium Grade Cases (iv) High Grade Cases	1 1 1	1 1 1	1 1	1
Total Non-Urgent Cases	3	3	2	1
Total of Urgent and Non-Urgent Cases	7	5	9	4
(b) Of the Cases included in items 4(i), (ii) and (v), number considered suitable for:— (i) Occupation Centre (ii) Industrial Centre (iii) Home Training	9 9	6	6 3	1
(c) Of the Cases included in 6(b), number receiving training on 31/12/56:— (i) In Occupation Centre (ii) In Industrial Centre from a Home Teacher (in groups) (iii) from a Home Teacher at home (not in groups)	_	6 —	_	_
TOTAL	8	6	4	12

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

No cases were compulsorily removed during the year.

MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

(1) Residential Nurseries

The Medical Officers carried out routine examinations of the Children in Kingston House (Children's Department) and of those in the Children's Home, Eaton Park View, on admission, discharge and special occasions.

Both the homes come under the care of the Child Care Committee.

(2) Superannuation Examinations

Staff of all Corporation Departments were examined by the Medical Officers for the purpose of determining their fitness for (a) Employment, (b) Entry into the various Sickness Pay Schemes, (c) Entry into the Corporation Superannuation Scheme.

In the case of Staff associated with School Children, the examinations have included X-Ray of chest (usually done at the Mass Radiography Unit) and for teachers in the Education Department, full reports on Forms 4 R.T.C. and 28 R.Q. were made.

The number of examinations in the year was 484 and for comparison with previous years:—

1952: 204 1953: 338 1954: 412 1955: 431 1956: 484

WATER

The City water supply is drawn from the River Dee and supplied by the Chester Waterworks Company. The water is filtered and chlorinated at the Company's works.

The standard of purity has been maintained during the year, the water being graded 'Class I'.

Bacteriological examinations of the water supply including water from various filter beds have been carried out twice a month. In addition, chemical analyses of water from a consumer's tap have been carried out by the Public Analyst every month, and the following table gives the result of these analyses, which are shown in parts per million of water.

CHEMICAL EXAMINATION OF CITY WATER SUPPLY, 1956

Parts per Million	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Total Solid Matter in Solution	180.0	230.0	170.0	210.0	240.0	300.0	220.0	110.0	260.0	200.0	160.0	140.0
Nitrogen in Nitrates	2.0	9.0	1.5	2.0	1.5	2.0	1.5	1.0	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25
Nitrites	Ē	ïZ	ïZ	ïZ	Z	ΞZ	ΞZ	ïZ	ïZ	īZ	ij	Ī
Chlorine in Chlorides	27.0	39.0	24.0	39.0	43.0	40.0	27.0	20.0	21.0	24.0	17.0	29.0
Oxygen absorbed from Permanga-										İ	l	0
nate in four hours at 80°F	1.07	0.57	0.53	1.04	0.76	0.84	09.0	0.68	0.92	0.76	9/.0	0.68
Free and Saline Ammonia	E	Z	ïZ	ΞZ	Ë	Ē	Z	Z	Z	Z	Z	Z
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.70	0.05	0.05	0.07	90.0	90.0	0.05	0.05	90.0	0.05	0.05	90.0
Lead, Copper, Zinc	ΞZ	ËZ	Ξ	Nii	Ξ̈́Z	ΞZ	Ë	ïZ	ī	īZ	īŽ	Ź
Microscopical Examination of										:	į	į
Sediment	Z	Z	Z	ΞZ	ī	Ë	ī	ïZ	Z	Z	Z	Z
Temporary Hardness	55.0	0.02	40.0	95.0	65.0	85.0	0.09	0.09	55.0	25.0	20.0	20.0
Permanent Hardness	45.0	65.0	40.0	20.0	0.09	20.0	20.0	15.0	35.0	45.0	33.0	21.0
PH Value	6.9	7.0	6.7	7.3	7.2	7.2	8.9	7.0	7.0	7:0	6.9	8.9
Residual Free Chlorine	0.03	0.01	0.01	0.03	0.05	0.04	0.03	0.03	0.01	0.03	0.05	0.05

HEALTH OF CHILDREN PREVENTION OF BREAK-UP OF FAMILIES

(Ministry of Health Circular 27/54)

The steps taken by the Authority in accordance with this Circular covered a very large proportion of the Part III Services, and reference to them is made, in the main, under the various headings of this Report.

Problem Families were discussed at meetings of the officers concerned, and a closer, earlier liaison resulted between the Health, Children's, Welfare and Housing Departments.

The Health Visitors attended lectures arranged by adjacent Authorities on this subject, and they were encouraged in their social case work. In households where overcrowding, ill-health or marital disharmony threatened, reference was made to the appropriate department or voluntary body, and active follow-up was maintained.

One of the Health Visitors was employed specially for Tuberculosis Visiting. She attended the Chest Clinic weekly, and also reported on the Home Circumstances. Families requiring rehousing because of Tuberculosis were given priority. A special Domestic Help was employed to work in Tuberculosis Households.

For families beset by the spectre of Mental Ill-Health, an After-Care Club was accommodated in the Clinic premises. After-Care Visiting for these cases was done either by the Authorised Officers or by the Health Visitors themselves, and Discharge Reports from Mental Hospitals were available to guide them.

Because of their dual role of Health Visitor-School Nurse, the Staff followed up difficult children at home, and any domestic disharmony was brought to light. The children were treated at the Child Guidance Clinic rather than have them sent away to Special Boarding Schools. Close contact was maintained between Family Doctors and School Teachers. There was a great improvement in communication between Nursing Staff and the Family Doctor—both by letter, telephone and also by personal contact. Better co-operation was activated between the Staff and Children's Officer, Probation Officer, Officers of the N.S.P.C.C. and other bodies.

The Domestic Help Staff was increased (as also were the District Nurses) to cope with this new aspect of their work, and with the greater demand on their services. Voluntary bodies in the City were approached

regarding the possibility of setting up a panel of Night Sitters. It is unfortunate that it was not possible to inaugurate this new service, and reliance has still to be placed on good neighbours and some religious bodies.

A Marriage Guidance Clinic was also envisaged, but it was decided not to provide one in the City.

Among the Voluntary Organisations and bodies which have assisted the Department in many ways to keep the family unit together must be mentioned:—

The British Red Cross and St. John's Societies, Women's Voluntary Services, N.S.P.C.C., Chester Council of Social Services, Diocesan Board of Moral Welfare, and the Chester Sick Poor Fund. (This list is not complete.)

Admission to Nursery Schools has often helped to keep the family together and the Nursing Staff has frequently been able to call on other branches of the family to help during night time or over difficult periods.

This branch of our work—the task of keeping the family unit intact—is perhaps one of our most important duties. When family ties are relaxed by changing social circumstances, when economic difficulties appear so insuperable and when international relations are being adjusted to the Atomic Age, we must remember that the basis of all National life, human culture and civilisation is the family.

Chief Public Health Inspector's Report 1956

INSPECTION OF AREA

31	NVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE					
	Complaints received—Dwellings				•••	653
	Complaints received—Other Premise	es				122
	Visits in respect of Complaints-Dw	ellings			•••	1507
	Visits in respect of Complaints-Oth	ner Pre	emises			229
	Dwellings:—					
	Dweilings.—]	Inspections	
			First		Sbsqnt.	Total
	(a) Notifiable Diseases	•••	55		67	122
	(b) Food Poisoning Visits	• • •	25		138	163
	(c) Defects and Repairs		469		2144	2613
	(d) Certificates of Disrepair		2		11	13
	(e) Overcrowding		15		3	18
	(f) Prospective Corporation Tenants		295		116	411
	(g) Vermin		58		69	127
	(h) Dustbins		7		4	11
	(i) Other purposes		100		92	192
	Common Lodging House, visits					5
	Factories, visits					204
	Shops Act, inspections					880
	Schools, inspections					35
	Smoke abatement, observations, etc.					38
	Licensed Premises, inspections				•••	211
	Offices, inspections					55
	Other Business premises, (excluding)			•••	•••	23
	Cinemas and Theatre, inspections		•		• • •	6
	Canal Boats, inspections					6
	Tents, Vans and Sheds, inspections		• • •	• • •	•••	2
	Offensive Trades (excluding Fis					
	inspections					2
	Rag Flock premises, visits					6
	Pet Shops					15
	Piggeries					3
	Stables, visits					4
	Brooks and Streams, inspections					21
	,					

Waste Ground and Common Passages, insper	ections		•••	43 4759
Drainage Work:—				
(a) No. of premises involved			• • •	742
(b) Inspections	• • •	• • •	•••	1400
(c) Tests applied				259
Premises disinfected after infectious diseases				22
Premises disinfested for vermin				23
	disinf		for	
vermin				5
EOOD HYCIENE ETC				
FOOD HYGIENE, ETC.				90
Inspections of Restaurants and Cafes	•••	•••		90 45
Inspections of Hotels (Catering) Inspections of Canteens	•••	•••		43 75
Inspection of Dairies, Milk Shops, &c.				139
Inspections of General Provision Shops				332
Inspections of Butchers' Shops				207
Inspections of Bakehouses				73
Inspections of Fishmongers				56
Inspections of Greengrocers			•••	147
Inspections of Ice Cream premises				90
Inspections of Public Market				94
Inspections of Fish and Chip Shops	•••	•••		34
Inspections of Other Food Premises	•••			176
inspections of other room fremiers	•••	•••	•••	1,0
ADMINISTRATION				
(a) Number of letters sent re nuisances		• • •		1209
(b) Number of Preliminary Notices served	•••	• • •	•••	148
(c) Number of Statutory Notices served		•••		69
(d) Legal Proceedings in default	•••			1

The majority of nuisances are remedied by informal action and the cooperation of those concerned.

SECTION 92 PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936 ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES

Legal Proceedings

Case 1.

- (a) Court Order to abate Nuisance—14 days—Costs 16/6d.
- (b) Non-compliance with Court Order—Fined £5.
- (c) Subsequently Summons withdrawn on abatement of nuisance.

HOUSING

During the year the undermentioned 23 houses were closed by action under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936 or Section 10 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953.

Part (b)					
59, Lower Bridge Str	eet			 	(Undertaking)
30, Cuppin Street				 	(Undertaking)
125, Christleton Road	1			 	(Closing Order)
157, Christleton Road	l			 	(Closing Order)
99, Whipcord Lane				 	(Undertaking)
3, Keartland Place				 	(Undertaking)
5, Keartland Place				 	(Undertaking)
35, Crane Street				 	(Undertaking)
66 and 74, Hough Gre	een (Ba	asement	Flats)	 	(Closing Order)
4, Steam Mill Street				 	(Undertaking)
8, York Street			• , •	 	(Undertaking)
57, Steven Street				 	(Undertaking)
6, Park Street				 	(Undertaking)
6, Canal Side				 	(Undertaking)
3, Walmoor Street				 	(Undertaking)
52, Crane Street				 	(Undertaking)
6a, Ermine Road				 	(Undertaking)
17, Goss Street	•••			 	(Undertaking)
4, St. Martin's Court				 	(Undertaking)
44, Steven Street				 	(Closing Order)
8, Pitt Street				 	(Undertaking)
1, Masonic Place				 	(Undertaking)

SLUM CLEARANCE

The following areas have been represented during the year 1956.

Area						No.	of Houses
Christleton Road No	. 1.			• • •			16
Christleton Road No	. 2.			• • •	•••		3
The Mount, Boughto	n		• • •				21
Charles Street							26
Seaville Buildings							37
Union Terrace							8
Victoria Buildings	• • •	• • •					7
Princess Court and E	Edward	ds Cou	ırt, Tra	fford S	treet		8
Nields Buildings			• • •	• • •	• • •		12
					TO	TAL.	138

HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENTS ACT, 1954

This Act came into force on the 1st September, 1954. The following table gives details of applications and granting of Certificates of Disrepair from 1st April, 1956, to 31st March, 1957.

Number of Applications for Certificates	Number granted	Number refused	Number of Applications for revocation of Certificates	Number granted	Number refused
4	4		1	1	
47	TOTA 45	L since 2	lst September, 7	1954. 6	1

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

In the City, smoke pollution is caused chiefly by domestic chimneys and the Railways. Some of the larger industrial undertakings have installed oil burning plant in lieu of coal fired boilers.

Thirty-eight observations have been made of factory chimneys and 11 complaints investigated of excessive smoke from two Laundries and a Brewery, the Public Baths and four Hotels. Appropriate informal action was taken in these cases and observations on these and other chimneys continued throughout the year.

Twelve complaints were received from areas in the vicinity of the Leadworks, regarding smells of a burning rubber type and sulphurous fumes.

A Public Enquiry was held in March to consider the proposal for the erection of a 300 feet high chimney to disperse the fumes, with a view to the mitigation of complaints received over a number of years.

Certain provisions of the Clean Air Act, 1956, only came into operation on 31st December, 1956.

CANAL BOATS

As in previous years the number of boats using the canal has continued to fall.

Six visits were paid but, two boats only were examined during 1956 and neither required the service of complaint notes.

COMMON LODGING HOUSE

There is only one privately-owned Common Lodging House (males only) licensed by the City Council.

Five surprise and routine inspections have been made and several sanitary improvements have been carried out on request and under supervision.

RODENT CONTROL

Under the scheme of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, a consolidated grant of 50 per cent. of the approved net expenditure, incurred during the financial year 1955-56, is made to Local Authorities. Certain conditions relating to organisation, employment methods, staffing and the carrying out of effective procedure have to be complied with to the satisfaction of the Ministry.

Corporation sewers, surface properties and private houses are treated free of cost. Grant aid is not available in respect of expenditure incurred by the treatment of commercial or industrial premises, the costs being fully re-imbursed by the occupiers so that no charge falls on public funds.

Rodent control in Corporation sewers has continued, two 'maintenance' and one 'test bait' treatments being carried out during the year.

The results of these treatments are shown in the following tables:-

Sewer Maintenance Treatment No. 2/55/56. 13th February to 15th March, 1956.

Manholes treated	Pre	bait ta	ık e s (1)	Pre	bait 1	takes	(2)		Poiso	n tak	es	Estimated kill
Σ	C.	G.	S.	N.	C.	G.	S.	N.	C.	G.	S.	N.	Ä
380	142	71	64	103	125	74	781	103	-	51	172	175	542
Bait b	ase:—	- Br	ead n	nash	plus I	Poiso	n—A	rsenic	2				
C—C	omple	te tak	e.	(G—G	ood.		S—	-Smal	1.	1	N—N	o take
					Sewer J		st Ba 1956	iting					

Result

Partial

8

No take

154

C.

6

No. of Manholes tested

168

Test baiting with damp sausage rusk was applied in the areas of the City having modern piped sewers, as from practical experience the old sewers of the City are known to be rat infested.

Sewer Maintenance Treatment No. 1/56/57.

3rd September to 15 th October, 1956.

Manholes treated	Pre	ebait t G.		(1) N .		ebait G.			C.		n tako		Rats destroyed
402	106	80	75	141	89	72	86	155	_	41	153	208	690

Bait base:— Sausage rusk plus Poison—Zinc Phosphide.

There is little doubt that effective treatment of the sewers reduces the complaints from surface properties. In built-up areas such infestations are usually traced to defective drains and the complaints are remedied following repairs.

The sewers and Corporation refuse tips remain the major source of infestation in the City. The tip, sewage works and land adjoining are kept under routine observation and received 10 treatments during the year.

The rodent staff (one Foreman and two Operators) are engaged for a total of approximately three months annually in the treatment of sewers, sewage work and refuse tips alone.

In addition to the 3,564 visits paid to manholes by the Rodent Staff, 4,759 visits were also made by this Staff and Public Health Inspectors to surface properties during the financial year ended 31st March, 1957.

Estimated total of vermin destroyed; Rats—4,846; Mice—4,062.

The result of searches, complaints and the services to premises in the City is shown in the following table:—

RODENT CONTROL—Report for 12 months ended 31st March, 1957

	AGRI- CULT- URAL	17	1	10	1	10		ı	İ	ŀ	1	i	1	Z.i.	Z.i.	Nii.	1
	Total	20166	378	627	31	4749		30	316	83	140	515	999	Zi.	Z.i.	Nii	46
NON-AGRICULTURAL	All Other (including Business Premises)	2913	92	256	13	748		7	36	18	35	82	93	Nii.	Nii.	Eii.	26
NON-AGR	Dwelling Houses	17129	258	357	18	3536		∞	260	51	100	396	419	Nii.	Nii.	.ii.	26
	Local Authority	124	28	34	1	465		15	20	14	2	37	54	Nii.	N.I.	Z.i.	1
	TYPE OF PROPERTY	I.—Total number or Properties in Local Authority's District	II.—Number of Properties inspected as a result of:— (a) Notification	(b) Survey under the Act	(c) Otherwise	III.—Total Inspections carried out (including reinspections)	IV.—Number of Properties inspected (in Section II) found to be infested by:—	(a) Rats—Major	Rats—Minor	(b) Mice—Major	Mice—Minor	V.—Properties in Section IV treated by Local Authority	VI.—Total Treatments (including re-treatments)	VII.—Notices served under Section 4 of the Act	VIII.—Cases of Default	IX.—Legal Proceedings	X.—'Block' Control Schemes carried out

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

The above mentioned Act has been in operation since 1st November, 1951, and repealed the Rag Flock Acts of 1911 and 1928. Its purpose is to secure the use of clean filling materials in upholstered articles or other articles which are stuffed or lined.

The Act requires the licensing of premises where filling materials are used for upholstering, stuffing or lining of bedding, toys or baby carriages, but unfortunately, excludes premises where these articles are remade or reconditioned.

Six visits were made to premises within the City and one received a licence, under the Act.

One sample of Loose Washed Flock (50% wool) was submitted to the Prescribed Analyst for examination and was certified to be in accordance with the standard of cleanliness laid down in the Act.

THE MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949

TOTAL 65

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) REGULATIONS, 1949

The following licences were issued for the sale of designated milk within the City during the year ended 31st December, 1956:—

(a) Pasteuriser's Licence		 	 	 1
(b) Dealer's Licences:—				
(i) T.T. Milk		 	 	 33
(ii) Pasteurised Milk		 	 	 64
(iii) Sterilized Milk		 	 	 9
(c) Supplementary Licence	s:—			

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (SPECIFIED AREAS) ORDER, 1955

Chester became a specified area during 1955.

T.T. Milk ...

Milk sold by retail must only be specially designated milk, i.e., pasteurised, sterilized or tuberculin tested.

The sale of undesignated milk is prohibited.

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955

The Chief and Deputy Chief Public Health Inspectors have continued to give lectures and demonstrations on the principles of hygiene and the dangers involved in the neglect of personal and kitchen hygiene to staffs of food premises and numerous organisations.

The recording and detailed inspection of food premises was continued during the year.

Detailed inspections have been made on initial inspection the premises were classified according to (a) suitability of premises (b) type and condition of equipment (c) methods employed and (d) general standards of hygiene.

Initial inspections for this purpose numbered 112 and re-inspections 332.

Where necessary, the attention of proprietors and management was called by interview and letter to defects, etc., requesting co-operation in order to advance the grading classification of these premises.

Such co-operation has been willingly given, resulting in a marked improvement in the standard without need for statutory action.

The work carried out included:—

- (i) Repairs to walls, ceilings, floors, doors and windows, etc.
- (ii) Painting of walls, ceilings and woodwork.
- (iii) Provision of adequate ventilation and lighting.
- (iv) Removal of refuse, etc., and regular cleaning of premises, etc.
- (v) Personal cleanliness, overalls, etc.
- (vi) Provision of wash basins, sinks, and hot and cold water supply, soap and clean towels, etc.
- (vii) Food storage, accommodation and refrigerators.
- (viii) Provision of sanitary accommodation.

The following table gives the state of classification of food premises inspected and re-inspected to the end of 1956 since commencement of the scheme:—

somethic.	Classification on Inspection	Classification of same remises at end of 1956
Excellent	47	 70
Good	238	 296
Fair	200	 182
Poor	114	 69
Bad	23	 5
то	TALS 622	622

NOTE.—Excellent means first class in all respects, Good means minor defects only, Fair means few small defects in structure, equipment or methods, Poor means below standard generally and Bad means very unsatisfactory.

The premises classified 'bad' were being satisfactorily dealt with early in 1957.

The following is a list of the food premises in the City:—

Type	Number	Type	Number
Bakehouses	. 14	Kiosks	5
Brewery		Licensed Victuallers	107
Butchers' Shops	71	Wholesale Meat Depots	2
Cake Shops	22	Mineral Water Manufacturers	
Cheese Factors	2	Mobile Canteen	1
Dairies		Restaurants & Cafes	69
Egg Packing Station	. 1	School Kitchens, Canteens	
Fishmongers		and Meal Centres	30
Fried Fish & Chip Premises	30	Slaughterhouses	. 2
General Stores	10	Sweet Manufacturers	
Greengrocers		Sweet Shops	41
Grocers & Provisions	125	Tripe Shops	1
Hotels	27	Wholesale Grocers	6
Ice Cream Manufacturers		Works & Stores Canteens	18
Ice Cream Wholesale Depots	1		

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955—SECTION 16

The following are registered in the City for:—

	Number of	
	Premises	Inspections
(a) The sale, manufacture for sale, or storage of ice cream intended for sale	201	158
(b) The preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food		
intended for sale	33	36

FOOD POISONING—INVESTIGATIONS

The Public Health Inspectors made 163 investigations and re-visits to suspected cases notified to the Medical Officer of Health, and collected 176 specimens for bacteriological examination in connection with same.

ICE CREAM

Chemical Analysis

The Food Standards (Ice Cream) Order 1953 provides that ice cream must contain at least 5 per cent fat, 10 per cent. sugar and $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. milk solids other than fat. The standard applies to any products (including those supplied in catering establishments) which are sold as 'ice cream' or 'ices', but does not apply to water ices sold as such or to 'ice lollies'.

The fat content of the eight samples analysed is shown in the following table:—

FAT CONTENT PER CENT.

Standard 5 per cent	5 and under 6	6 and under 7	7 and under 8	8 and under 9	9 and under 10	10 and under 11	11 and under 12	12 and over
Number of Samples		1		1	_	2	1	3

The samples also satisfied the tests for sugar content and milk solids other than fat.

BACTERIOLOGICAL SAMPLES (Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations 1947-51.

During the year 41 samples of ice cream were bacteriologically examined by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Hamilton Square, Birkenhead.

The following table sets out the results:—	Numb	ber of Samples
Grade 1—Satisfactory		39
Grade 2—Satisfactory		2
Grade 3—Unsatisfactory		
TO	TAL	41

There were no samples containing Faecal B. Coli.

All the premises, etc. on which ice cream was manufactured, stored or sold were regularly inspected and the condition of utensils, methods, etc. found to comply with the requirements of the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations.

LICENSED PREMISES

211 visits were made to licensed premises and a comprehensive report submitted to the Licensing Justices. The premises were also inspected regarding their compliance with the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955.

Special attention has been directed to hygiene and the provision of sanitary accommodation. Particular attention has also been paid to the condition of beer cellars, especially in regard to the type and condition of piping from barrel to pump, cleanliness, structural condition, ventilation and drainage of floor and, where necessary, repairs and alterations have been carried out on request.

No complaints were received regarding unclean drinking utensils, etc. but this gives no room for complacency.

The generally high standard of hygiene in licensed premises within the City was maintained.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

The following tables show (1) the samples submitted to the Public Analyst (H. Lowe, Esq., M.Sc., F.R.I.C.) during the year and (2) the administrative action taken in respect of samples certified to be not genuine.

ARTI	CLE			Numb	er Exam	ined	Number	Adultera	ted, etc
				Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total
Milk				24	47	71	_	_	
Ice Cream		• •	•••		8	8	_	_	_
Ice Lollies		•••	•••		6	6	_	_	_
Beer Cheese Spread		••	•••		6	6 2 2 2 2 2 3 2 2 2		_	
Pork Sausages		•••	•••		2	2	_		
Tea			•••	_	2 2 2 2 2 3 2	$\bar{2}$	_		_
Dried Fruit				_	2	2	_	_	_
Lentils				_	2	2	_	_	_
Mussels		••	•••	_	3	3	_	_	_
Cockles Whisky		••	•••	2		2		_	
Jam		• •	•••	ĩ	1	2	_	1	1
Pastry Mix				_	î	ī	_	_	_
Beef Suet					1	1	_	_	_
Butter		• • •	•••	_	1	1	_	_	_
Fynnon Salts		•••	•••	_	1	1	_	_	
Liquid Paraffin Milk of Magnes			• • •		1	1			
Fruit Cake					1	î	_	_	_
Malt Loaf				_	î	1	_	_	_
Sultana Pudding				_	1	1	_	_	_
Margarine		••		_	1	1	_	_	_
Cooking Fat		• • •	•••		1	1	_		_
Lard Grapefruit Squ			•••		1	1		1	1
Kippers		· · ·		_	î	î	_	_	
Stuffing				_	ī	1	_	_	_
Pie Filling				_	1	1	_	_	_
Salt		• • •	•••		1	1	_	_	_
Coconut Flour		• • •	•••	_	1	1		_	
Self-Raising Flo					î	î		_	
Malt Vinegar				_	ī	$\bar{1}$	_	_	
Bottled Cream					1	1	_	_	_
Pickled Cabbage	е .		•••	_	1	1	_	_	_
Meat Paste Blancmange Pov		• • •	•••	_	1	1			
Vermicelli			• • •		1	i			_
Fruit Chutney		• • •		_	î	î	_	_	_
Custard Powder			•••	_	1	1	_	_	
Marmalade				_	1	1	_	_	_
Mustard			•••	_	1	1	_	_	
Jelly Carmelle		• • •	•••	_	1	1			
Ricory			•••		1	î	_	_	
Fish Paste				_	ī	1			
Pearl Barley				_	1	1	_	_	_
Sauce		• • •	•••	_	2	2	_	_	
Pickled Onions		• • •	•••	_	1	1		_	_
Spanish Plums Assorted Toffee		• • •	•••		1	1	_		
Sweets			•••	_	î	î	_	_	
Double Cream			•••	_	ī	1	_	_	
Lemon Curd				_	1	1	_	_	_
Pepper		• • •	•••	_	1	1	_		
Vanilla Flavou	ring	• • •	•••	_	1	1			

ARTICI	L E		Nun	_	mined	Number	ted, etc.	
			Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total
Cochineal Colourin	19		_	1	1	_	_	_
White Loaf			_	$\bar{1}$	$\bar{1}$	_		_
Wholemeal Loaf			_	ī	ī	_		
Milk Loaf			_	1	1	_	_	
Lemon Juice				1	1	_	_	_
Beef Sausages			_	1	1	_		
Gelatine			_	1	1	_	_	
Mincemeat			_	1	1	_	_	_
Fruit Cake Mix			_	1	1	_		
Chewing Gum				1	1	_	_	
Christmas Pudding			_	1	1		_	_
Ground Almonds			_	1	1	_		
Icing Sugar			_	1	1	_	_	_
Blackcurrent Juice			_	1	1	_		_
Gravy Browning	•••	•••	_	1	1	_	_	_
	тот	ALS	27	143	170	_	2	2

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

TABLE II.

Table showing administrative action taken in regard to samples certified to be not genuine.

Action taken	Remaining stock destroyed. Verbal warning given.	Formal following up sample 43 contained 68.9% soluble solids—genuine. No action taken.
Remarks	Old stock only, four bottles left of consignment.	
Result of Analyses	Musty taste and odour with Old stock only, four bottles Remaining stock destroyed. mould growth on cork.	Soluble solids 62.8% sample should not contain less than 65% soluble solids.
Article	Grapefruit Squash	Apple and Blackberry Jam.
Sample No.	Informal 22	Informal 36

MILK

Chemical Analysis

Total Samples analysed		 		71
Number certified 'not genuine'				
•				
Samples below standard for fat	• • •	 • • •	• • •	Nil.
Samples below standard for solids not fat		 		Nil.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS

Result of the various tests applied to 159 samples of milk submitted for examination are shown in the following table:—

	No. of		Number		
Designation	Samples	Test Applied	Passed	Failed	
Pasteurised	40	Phosphatase Methylene Blue	40 39	1	
Certified T.T	80	Methylene Blue Coliform	74 80	6	
T.T. Pasteurised	29	Phosphatase Methylene Blue	29 29	_	
Sterilized	10	Turbidity	10	_	

NOTES:-

(a) The 'Phosphatase Test' denotes efficient pasteurisation.

(b) The 'Methylene Blue Test' assesses keeping qualities.

(c) Presence of coliform bacillus indicates faecal contamination.

The attention of the Producers and where necessary the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries was called to the unsatifactory samples. Subsequent samples passed the appropriate tests.

BIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS

(a) For Tuberculosis

22 samples of T.T. Milk were sent to the Medical Research Laboratory, Birkenhead, for examination for the presence of tuberculosis of bovine origin.

All were certified to be negative.

(b) For Brucella Abortus

				Results		
No of Samples Examined	x	Ring xx	Test xxx	—Negative		P.I. Negative
60 (T.T. Milk)	6	3	1	50	1	9

The above eleven positive results occurred in seven separate dairy herds. Guinea pig inoculation tests are carried out when samples are found to be Ring Test positive, in order to confirm the presence of the brucella.

The Local Authorities of the Areas of source of production in respect of six Ring Test positive cases were notified and took samples at the farms. Subsequently the guinea pig inoculation tests in respect of these cases were certified to be negative.

A farm situated in the City was the source of the remaining Ring Test

positive routine sample.

Samples were obtained individually from all the animals in this herd and resulted in three Ring Test positive results. Subsequently, one of the samples was found positive for the brucella on guinea pig inoculation test.

The animal was removed from the herd and later slaughtered. As a result the Notice served by the Medical Officer of Health under Section 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, prohibiting the sale of milk from the affected cow, was withdrawn.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

This Act, which came into operation on 1st April, 1951, regulates premises on, and conditions under which, pets are housed and sold.

Five premises were licensed under the Act and 15 re-inspections made during the year. All the premises complied with the terms of their licences.

Legislation is necessary to control more effectively the sale of unfit meat in Pet and other such Shops, to ensure that it cannot be used for human food.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933/1954

Twenty-two renewal licences and two new licences were issued to Slaughtermen during the year.

Slaughtering in the City has been carried out at the Public Abattoir and

one private Slaughterhouse.

The private Slaughterhouse was closed in July, 1956.

Animals slaughtered during 1956:—

Cattle	 	 	 2496
Calves	 	 	 699
Sheep	 	 	 12074
Pigs	 	 	 2398

TOTAL 17667

Meat Marketing is carried out at the Abattoir where a Meat Inspector is on duty whilst slaughtering is in progress.

Ante-mortem inspections are made of all animals and notes taken of any abnormalities which might assist in the subesquent post-mortem examinations which are carried out on every animal slaughtered.

The weight of food condemned during the year amounted to:—

Meat and offals Other foods				Tons 13 13	Cwts. 18 11	Qrs. 2 2	Lbs. 0 18
			TOTAL	27	10	0	18

All condemned meat is 'dyed green' before removal to an approved processing plant to ensure that it cannot be used for human consumption. 21

Brookes and Streams, inspections

The following tables show (1) percentage of animals affected with disease and (2) details of all food condemned.

TABLE I.

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

WHOLL	024 224				
	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed Number inspected	2457 2457	39 39	699 699	12074 12074	2398 2398
All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci					
Whole carcases condemned Carcases of which some part		1	11	5	3
or organ was condemned Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease	966	14	7	1399	489
other than Tuberculosis & Cysticerci	39.31	38·46	2.57	11.63	20.81
Tuberculosis only		4	ب		,
Whole carcases condemned Carcases of which some part or	5	1	5	_	1
organ was condemned Percentage of the number in-	206	9	_	_	72
spected affected with Tuber- culosis	8.59	25.64	0.71		3.04
Cysticercosis					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned Carcases submitted to treat-	54		_		
ment by refrigeration	54				_
Generalised & totally condemned			_	_	

CYSTICERCUS BOVIS

Fifty-four cases were discovered during the year, whilst the following table shows the number of animals affected for a period of seven years.

YEAR					1	NUMB	ER OF	CASES
1950							5	0.1020
1951							10	
1952							14	
1953						• • •	27	
1954	• • •			• • •	• • •	• • •	19	
1955	• • •	•••	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	34	
1956	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	54	
					7	COTAX	162	

TOTAL 163

All the affected carcases were placed into deep freeze in accordance with Memo 3/Meat.

TABLE II. UNSOUND FOOD

UNSOUND FOOD										
Article	lbs.	Reason for Condemnation								
BEEF										
6 Whole carcase and offal	3126	Generalised tuberculosis								
1 Whole carcase and offal	505	Septic pericarditis								
20 Quarters	1911	Localised Tuberculosis								
1 Quarter	340	Extensive bruising								
VEAL										
2 1071-1	129	Immaturity								
3 Whole carcases and offal	123	Umbilical Pyaemia								
1 Whole carcase and offal	295	Generalised or congenital								
i whole carease and onar	275	tuberculosis								
1 Whole carcase and offal	40	Acute septic peritonitis								
1 Whole carcase and offal	65	Extensive contusions								
1 W/1-1 1 - 4-1	37	Dropsical								
1 Whole coroses and offel	49	Jaundice								
I whole carcase and onai	72	Jaundice								
DODY										
PORK	70	Compingania								
1 Whole carcase and offal	70	Septicaemia								
1 Whole carcase and offal	115									
1 Whole carcase and offal	108	Moribund								
1 Whole carcase and offal	65	Oedema								
MUTTON										
2 Whole carcases and offal	80	Enteritis								
2 Whole carcases and offal	65	Oedema								
1 Whole carcase and offal	40	Febrility								
W. Orn	0.4000									
VISCERA	24039	Localised Tuberculosis								
		Parasitic and other con-								
MACORY Y ANDROYS		ditions								
MISCELLANEOUS										
6,924 tins of fish, meat, soup,	14444	D' 1.11								
vegetables, etc	14444	Pierced, blown, etc.								
653 tins of condensed and	510	Diamand Player								
evaporated milk	518	Pierced, Blown, etc.								
Tinned Ham	1546	Decomposed								
Liquid Egg	580	Decomposed								
Sausages	188	Decomposed								
Imported Beef	343	Decomposed								
Imported Lamb	39	Mould								
Chickens	130	Decomposed								
Ducks	131	Decomposed								
Turkeys	113	Decomposed								
Rabbits	60	Decomposed								
Butter	31	Decomposed								
Bacon	76	Decomposed								
Cheese	69	Decomposed, mould, etc.								

UNSOUND FOOD-Contd.

	Aru	cie		IDS.	Reason for Condemnation
MISCELLANE	ous				
Cooked Meat				32	Decomposed
0.1.1				10	Contaminated
Ground Ginge	er			35	Contaminated
Cake				70	Damaged in transit
				1013	Contaminated
FRUIT & VE	CETAI	RTFS			
Garden Peas		DLLO		40	Decomposed
Strawberries	•••	•••	•••	56	Decomposed
Walnuts		•••		40	Weevil
Barley				24	Weevil
Barrey	•••	•••	•••	24	W CC VII
FISH					
Cod				186	Decomposed
Haddock				42	Decomposed
Bream				28	Decomposed
Halibut				34	Decomposed
Mixed Fish F	illets			392	Decomposed
Herrings				14	Decomposed
Kippers				28	Decomposed
Fish Cakes				24	Decomposed

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 AND 1948

PART I OF THE ACT

1. INSPECTIONS for the purpose of provisions as to health made by the Public Health Inspectors during 1956.

mber of
Occupiers Prosecuted
_
_
_
_

	No. o	No. of Cases in which defects were found				
Particulars	Found		Refe To H.M. Inspector	By H.M.	No. of Cawhich Pro	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	12	12	_	1	_	
Overcrowding (S.2)		_				
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	3	3	_	3		
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) Ineffective drainage of floors	1	1	_			
(S.6) Sanitary conveniences (S.7):	_	_		_		
(a) Insufficient	5	5		1	_	
(b) Unsuitable or defective	22	22	_	9	_	
(c) Not separate for sexes Other offences against the Act (Not including offences re-	3	2		1	_	
lating to Out work)						
TOTAL	46	45		15	_	

PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUTWORK (Sections 110 and 111)

NATURE OF WORK		No. of outworkers in August list required by Educat. 110(1)(c)	No. of cases of default in Esending lists to the Coun- Coul	No. of prosecutions for II failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work S in unwholesome premises E	Notices served	Prosecutions
(1)		(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Furniture and upholstery		2	_	_	_	_	-
Wearing apparel—Making etc.	•••	7			_		

